WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   An application development environment configured to facilitate development of an application, comprising:

a standard development template suite comprising at least one template agent providing functionality directed to managing background processes of the application and at least one front-end template providing interface functionality to communicate with the background processes;

a plurality of framework components comprising a front-end core script library containing code elements used to add front-end functionality to the application not provided by the front-end template and a back-end core script library containing code elements used to add functionality to the application not provided by the template agent; and

a global script library containing data structures available for use by the framework components in creating the front-end and back-end application components.

2.   The environment of claim 1, wherein the framework components further comprise a front-end project specific script library listing components from the front-end core script library for use with the application.

3.   The environment of claim 1, wherein the framework components further comprise a back-end project specific script library listing components from the back-end core script library used to create the application.

4.   The application development environment of claim 1, wherein the at least one front-end template provides functionality directed to presenting and managing data.

5.   The application development environment of claim 1, wherein the at least one front-end template provides functionality directed to presenting database records.

6.   The application development environment of claim 1, wherein the at least one front-end template provides functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.

7.   The application development environment of claim 1, wherein the at least one front-end template comprises at least two of:

a template providing functionality directed to presenting and managing data;

a template providing functionality directed to presenting database records; and

a template providing functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.

8.   A method comprising:

providing a standard development template suite comprising at least one template agent providing functionality directed to manage background processes and at least one front-end template providing interface functionality to configure the background processes;

receiving user selections of at least one front-end template and at least one template agent;

implementing front-end functionality from the selected front-end template into an application;

implementing additional front-end functionality, not provided by the selected front-end template, to the application from a front-end core script library;

implementing back-end functionality from the selected template agent into the application; and

implementing additional back-end functionality, not provided by the selected template agent, to the application from a back-end core script library.

9.   The method of claim 8, wherein:

the at least one template agent comprises a first template providing functionality directed to presenting and managing data, a second template providing functionality directed to presenting database records, and a third

template providing functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application; and

the method comprises implementing functionality from the first, second, and third template into the application.

10. The method of claim 8, wherein implementing additional front-end functionality, not provided by the selected front-end template, to the application from a front-end core script library comprises implementing additional front-end functionality identified in a front-end project specific script library.

11. The method of claim 8, wherein implementing additional back-end functionality, not provided by the selected template agent, to the application from a back-end core script library comprises implementing additional back-end functionality identified in a back-end project specific script library.

12. The method of claim 8, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to presenting and managing data.

13. The method of claim 8, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to presenting database records.

14. The method of claim 8, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.

15.   A computer-readable medium containing a program for developing an application which, when executed by a computer, performs operations comprising:

      providing a standard development template suite comprising at least one template agent providing functionality directed to manage background processes and at least one front-end template providing interface functionality to configure the background processes;

      receiving user selections of one or more templates from the template suite; and

      for each selected template:

         determining if the selected template is a front-end template and, if so, implementing front-end functionality from the selected front-end template into an application and implementing additional front-end functionality, not provided by the selected front-end template, to the application from a front-end core script library, and

         determining if the selected template is a template agent and, if so, implementing back-end functionality from the selected template agent into the application and implementing additional back-end functionality, not provided by the selected template agent, to the application from a back-end core script library.

16.   The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein implementing additional front-end functionality, not provided by the selected front-end template, to the application from a front-end core script library comprises implementing additional front-end functionality identified in a front-end project specific script library.

17.   The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein implementing additional back-end functionality, not provided by the selected template agent, to the application from a back-end core script library comprises implementing additional back-end functionality identified in a back-end project specific script library.

18.   The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to presenting and managing data.

19.   The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to presenting database records.

20.   The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the template suite comprises at least one front-end template providing functionality directed to coordinating transactions among different components of an application.